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Nevada Legislature

FIFTY-SIXTH SESSION

June 29, 1974

Dear General Walters,

Enjoyed meeting you and looking forward to many years of association in the National Military Intelligence Association.

Enclosed is one of the articles where I have defended the C.I.A.. There will be many more in the future.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chic", with a large loop at the end.

Friday, August 2, 1973

Hecht defends McGovern fund probe by CIA

State Sen. Chic Hecht, R-Las Vegas, a former military spy at the height of the Cold War, said here Thursday the CIA had a right to step in if there was a possibility communist money was involved in a presidential campaign.

Hecht made the comment on KSHO-TV in Las Vegas when asked for an opinion on the testimony of former CIA Director Richard Helms before the Senate Watergate Committee.

"When there is a possibility or a strong indication that foreign or communist money is involved in a presidential campaign, the CIA certainly has a right to step in," Hecht said.

Hecht was elected to the Nevada Senate in 1966 and was the Republican minority leader in 1969. He is national president of the National Counter Intelligence Corps Association, which is meeting through Sunday at the Stardust Hotel.

Hecht said Friday he had invited Dr. Henry Kissinger to address the convention's 200 delegates, but that Kissinger had been unable to attend due to conflicting engagements.

However, Hecht said, a group of leading intelligence experts from the National Intelligence School would address the convention on "where intelligence is at the moment," compared to concepts and of the 1930s through 1960s.

Hecht said current plans are to consolidate Army, Navy and civilian intelligence-gathering networks into a more unified organization.

In the television interview Thursday, Hecht maintained that "the CIA has been entrusted with the security of America—overseas or in



SEN. CHIC HECHT

...Red money for Demos?

America." He said the CIA's role in Watergate transcended more political bugging.

"There had been strong suspicion that communist money was involved in the McGovern campaign," he said. "Therefore I feel they (the CIA) had the right to walk in."